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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Letter dated 29 July 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the European Union, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a declaration by the European Union on Zaire, issued on 27 July 1994.

I should be grateful if you could have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 103 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Gerhard HENZE

* A/49/150.

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Zaire issued on 27 July on behalf of the European Union by its Presidency

In Zaire, the Government of Prime Minister Kengo Wa Dondo was officially installed by the High Council of the Republic-Transitional Parliament on 11 July 1994. The European Union notes that, under the terms of the agreement negotiated by the entire political class in Zaire, ministerial posts are available to all parties and two ministerial posts are reserved for Mr. Tshisekedi's party.

At the same time, the European Union expresses its hope that the installation of this Government will be followed by specific actions that will permit the genuine democratization of the country and rapidly halt the constant deterioration in the economic and social situation of the Zairian population. In this perspective the European Union considers it essential that measures be taken to improve security markedly, to stop hyperinflation and to draw up an emergency economic reconstruction programme - including especially the independence of the central bank - designed to facilitate the resumption of dialogue with the Bretton Woods institutions. It also asks that the Government commit itself to respect for human rights, freedom of expression and to a timetable for free elections.

The European Union calls upon all political and economic forces in Zaire to cooperate now towards democratic transition and economic stabilization. It urges President Mobutu to respect the autonomy of the transitional government and to invest it with all necessary means for the exercise of its function. The European Union will in the meantime continue its humanitarian assistance for those Zairian population groups who are the victims of the crisis and will examine ways gradually to increase this assistance.